

## Message Text

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41

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01 AID-20 IO-14 DRC-01 /163 W

----- 066768

P 051255Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6682

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 0712

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.OM 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK

SUBJ: AFGHAN-PAK RELATIONS -LAHORE ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE

REF: A) ISLAMABAD 1096 B) KABUL 0580

SUMMARY: PAK EMISSARY AZIZ AHMED VISITED KABUL FEB 1-3 IN ORDER  
DELIVER INVITATION FOR PRESIDENT DAOUD ATTEND LAHORE ISLAMIC  
SUMMIT CONFERENCE. DAOUD RESPONDED HE REGRETTED HIS INABILITY TO  
ATTEND BUT PROMISED SEND AFGHAN DELEGATION. DAOUD RAISED  
PUSHTUNISTAN ISSUE, SAYING GOA WOULD WELCOME NEGOTIATIONS  
AS FIRST HIGH-LEVEL CONTACT BETWEEN GOA AND GOP SINCE  
DAOUD'S COUP. VISIT, WHILE NOT SOLVING ANYTHING, SEEMS  
TO HAVE GONE REMARKABLY SMOOTHLY. ACTION REQUESTED: NONE.  
END SUMMARY.

1. PAKISTANI MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND DEFENSE AFFAIRS  
AZIZ AHMED ARRIVED KABUL BY CAR FEB 1 AND DEPARTED FEB 3  
BY PLANE. PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS WERE MET BY AFGHAN OFFICIALS  
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ALL THE WAY FROM BORDER POINT TO KABUL, WHERE DEPFONMIN

WAHID ABDULLAH MET AHMAD ON OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN IN SNOW STORM. AHMED PAID COURTESY CALLS ON DEPFONMIN ABDULLAH AND DEPRIMIN SHARQ PRIOR TO MEETING PRESIDENT DAOUD FOR 40-MINUTE CONFERENCE. ABDULLAH GAVE LUNCHEON FOR HIM AND DEPRIMIN SHARQ HOSTED DINNER FEB 2 AT WHICH GUESTS INCLUDED ISLAMIC AMBASSADORS IN KABUL. AHMED STAYED AT INTERCON HOTEL AS STATE GUEST OF GOA. MINCOMMERCE JALALLAR WAS OFFICIAL HOST.

2. DURING AMBASSADOR'S FEB 4 CALL WITH NEA/PAB DIRECTOR CONSTABLE ON DEPFONMIN WAHID ABDULLAH, LATTER DESCRIBED AHMED'S VISIT. ACCORDING TO ABDULLAH, GOP HAD BEEN INFORMED BEFORE HAND THAT ANY EMISSARY WOULD BE WELCOME BUT ONLY TO PRESENT INVITATION TO ISLAMIC SUMMIT IN LAHORE, AND FROM PAK SIDE, INVITATION WAS ONLY MATTER OF SUBSTANCE RAISED. IN MEETING WITH PRESIDENT DAOUD, HOWEVER, ABDULLAH SAID PRESIDENT HAD GIVEN AZIZ "PATERNAL ADVICE" TO EFFECT THAT PAKS AND AFGHANS "ARE BROTHERS" WHO NEED EACH OTHER AND NEED HAVE NO DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN THEM. ACCORDING TO ABDULLAH, DAOUD SAID (A) GOA SOUGHT GOOD RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN, (B) THERE WAS ONLY "ONE PROBLEM" (I.E., PUSHTANISTAN) BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES, (C) GOA SOUGHT PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THIS ISSUE AND (C) GOA WOULD WELCOME ANY "NEGOTIATIONS" ON THIS QUESTION. ABDULLAH SAID THAT AZIZ AHMED WAS SILENT AFT FIRST AND THE INDICATED. AGREEMENT, BUT ADDED THAT HE DOUBTED AZIZ HAD REALLY "GOTTEN MESSAGE".

3. ON ISLAMIC SUMMIT, ABDULLAH REPORTED AZIZ HAD PRESENTED INVITATION TO DAOUD FROM BHUTTO AND EMPHASIZED GREAT HONOR TO PAKISTAN IF DAOUD COULD ATTEND. DAOUD EXPRESSED REGRETS, STRESSING PRESSURES OF WORK IN KABUL BUT PROMISED TO SEND DELEGATION. ABDULLAH SAID DAOUD DID NOT CONVEY ANY NAMES TO AZIZ.

4. ABDULLAH NOTED AZIZ HAD MET WITH HIM AND DEPRIMIN SHARQ. DISCUSSIONS LIMITED TO PLEASANTRIES ABOUT WEATHER AND SCENERY. ABDULLAH SAID ON MEETING DAOUD, AZIZ WAS "ASHEN AND TREMBLING" AND SO NERVOUS DAOUD HAD TO INITIATE CONVERSATION . THROUGHOUT ACCOUNT OF VISIT, ABDULLAH TENDED TO PLAY DOWN ITS SIGNIFICANCE.

5. PAK CHARGE BABAR CHARACTERIZED VISIT TO EMBOFF AS COMPLETE  
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SUCCESS. AFGHAN OFFICIALS WERE AMIABLE, COURTEOUS AND MADE EVERY EFFORT KEEP VISIT ON NON-PROVOCATIVE LEVEL. SHARQ EVEN EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT RECENT FLOOD IN PAKISTAN. ONLY SUBSTANTIVE TALKS WERE WITH DAOUD WHO WAS VERY CORDIAL, RELAXED AND REFERRED TO "BROTHERLY PAKISTANIS". BABAR (WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT), SAID DAOUD SPOKE OF PROBLEM THAT WE ARE TRYING TO SOLVE", AND SAID "WE DO NOT WANT TO SEE DESTRUCTION OF PAKISTAN". DAOUD ALSO ADDED THAT IT IS IN AFGHANISTAN'S INTEREST TO MAKE

EVERY EFFORT TO SOLVE "THE PROBLEM" PEACEFULLY. DAOUD AND AHMAD AGREED NO PUBLICITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THEIR DISCUSSION ABOUT "THE PROBLEM".

6. ON ISLAMIC SUMMIT, BABAR SAID DAOUD RESPONDED THAT HE UNFORTUANTELY COULD NOT ATTEND BUT SAID HE WOULD SEND ENVOY AND AN AFGHAN DELEGATION.

7. BABAR SAID AHMED WAS VERY PLEASED, EVEN "EXHILARATED" BY HIS RECEPTION. BABAR CONCLUDED "VISIT WENT BETTER THAN ANY OF US, AZIZ AHMED INCLUDED, EXPECTED. WE HAVE BEGUN, IF ONLY JUST, TO ESTABLISH A CLIMATE FOR REASONABLE DIALOGUE".

8. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERATION EVENING FEB 4 GHAUS (DIRECTOR UN AFFAIRS, MFA) TOLD POLOFF " I CAN UNOFFICIALLY TELL YOU THAT AMBASSADOR PAZHWAK (NEW DELHI) WILL BE OUR ENVOY, "AND THAT DELEGATION WILL BE COMPOSED OF MEMBERS AFGHAN EMBASSY ISLAMABAD AND MFA KABUL".

COMMENT: BABAR'S ENTHUSIASM ABOUT THE VISIT (PARA 7 ABOVE) SEEMS SOMEWHAT EXAGGERATED, AND THE GAP BETWEEN AFGHAN DESIRE TO NEGOTIATE ON PASHTUNISTAN AND PAK REFUSAL EVEN TO DISCUSS THE MATTER REMAINS UNABRIDGED. BUT THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE AHMED VIST APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN REMARKABLY GOOD.  
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